



## THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

A Research Center for Turf and Field Sports, their History and Social Significance

December 1992 No. 35

Laura Rose, Editor

### Memoirs of a Book-Hunting Man

by John Daniels

*Earlier this year the Minneapolis Institute of Arts mounted an exhibition of over 200 items from the collection of John Daniels, a member of the NSL's board of directors. Thousands of visitors were treated to some of the finest treasures of a sporting man's library, such as letters by Paul Brown and Lionel Edwards, rare horsemanship books by Blundeville, Cavendish and Markham, sketches by Sir Alfred Munnings, etchings by Henry Alken, books by Robert Smith Surtees, Gordon Grand and William Somerville, and a manuscript for a foxhunting article written and including corrections by Theodore Roosevelt.*

*For John Daniels, a big part of collecting sporting material is sharing it—whether it be a small collection at the library at his home in Hamel, Minn., or a grand undertaking like the Minneapolis exhibition. In the following piece he generously shares his trade secrets of collecting.*

"I have laid aside business and gone a-fishing." This quotation from Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler* is an appropriate description of what happened to me 20 years ago when I gradually retired from the world of active business and became a collector of sporting books on subjects such as hunting, shooting, steeplechasing and angling. Since I began "a-fishing," I have been fortunate to assemble a major collection of some 5,000 volumes.

I had enjoyed a career with Archer-Daniels-Midland Company which culminated in my serving as president and chief executive officer for 12 years. Although it took awhile to get accustomed to no longer having corporate responsibilities, I was

delighted to have more private time for my family and, of course, for fishing, shooting and travelling. I began to discover new interests as well, one of which was collecting the literature of sport in its many aspects. Before I knew what had hit me I was deeply committed to the exciting pursuits of a book collector.

The best advice that I received early in my life as a book collector was to specialize—to pick a category of interest to me and to stick to it. Sporting books were my obvious choice.

I had ridden horseback since I was eight. At 12 I started playing polo, and by the time I went to college I was playing in tournaments and riding to hounds with the old Fort Snelling hunt. As our children came along, the entire family became involved in riding horses, and for 18 years we did a great deal of showing of hunters and jumpers throughout the Midwest. In time I be-

came one of the founders of the Long Lake Hounds in Minnesota, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in 1990.

I had grown up with the foxhunting stories of Surtees and Gordon Grand and the shooting and fishing books of Havilah Babcock, Nash Buckingham and John Taintor Foote. I had an assortment of such books already in my library. I had every reason to have developed a long-lasting familiarity with and love of sporting literature.

#### The Collecting Bug Bites

I began corresponding with booksellers and making want-lists for certain books which I was beginning to learn might be available. It turned out to be quite simple to locate and acquire many attractive works at reasonable prices. Soon I had developed a mailing list of more than 25 booksellers who specialized in my field of interest. Brown paper parcels of old

books began arriving from various parts of the country and from abroad, and my collecting had begun in earnest.

Aspiring to the knowledge and scholarship of a serious collector, I decided to formalize my rare book education, and I applied to the Cornell University summer school course on rare books. I was attracted not only by the subject matter but also by that wonderfully pleasant, nostalgic idea of going back to college.

When I went off to Cornell, soap dish in hand, to live in a dormitory again after more than 30 years, I was clearly hooked. One of the unexpected byproducts of my behavior was that it unleashed a storm of incredulity and glee amongst my children. My son, Christopher, was so carried



*Daniels during his days as master of the Long Lake (Minnesota) Hounds, a pack he co-founded. The hunt was the first recognized in Minnesota by the Masters of Foxhounds Association.*

*continued*





*A view of the Daniels exhibition at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.*

away that he wrote me a four-page "shape-up Dad" letter about the importance of working hard and applying myself to my studies. He cautioned me not to goof off nor to cut classes, and he topped it off by sending me a shoe box filled with chocolate-chip cookies which I think he had jumped on before taking to the post office.

At Cornell we were taught almost every aspect of rare books, from finding and purchasing to care and repairs. Cornell gave me the confidence I sought to continue spending substantial amounts of time and money on my chosen field of interest.

### **The Bookseller's Craft**

A collector needs a good reference library to develop meaningful want lists, but want lists are no good unless there are effective booksellers willing to find the books. Over the years I have narrowed my sources down to fewer than 10 booksellers. They provide me with most of the books I gather each year, and one or two of them are also a great help at auctions.

The ideal bookseller is a rare bird. It takes time to develop the mutual trust, respect, friendship and communication for the necessary empathy between the specialist bookseller and the collector. The specialist must know more about your entire field than you do and yet be a skillful enough diplo-

mat to make sure that you either don't know it or else don't mind it. I owe full credit to this handful of experts. They broadened my horizons, educated me, encouraged me and gave me the opportunity to acquire most of the really rare books in my collection.

While suppliers have taught me a lot, I have also continued to learn about books through the study of bibliographies and biographies of sporting artists and authors. There is an endless flow of catalogues sent out by fine antiquarian booksellers in the United States and England. Over the years I have found many treasures in these catalogues, but it has demanded persistent and detailed reading and study to uncover the occasional rarity.

There seems to be a never-ending supply of worthwhile and valuable sporting books turning up. I'm frequently offered rarities which I've never heard of and books which I'd never expected to find. My best suppliers telephone me often, so I must have a good working knowledge of my collection at all times. I don't have the kind of memory that I admire in some of my bookseller friends, so I have evolved a useful and functioning record system which I am continuously using and updating. It tells me exactly what I have, when and where I bought it, what I paid for it and who the author is, and what it's all about,

plus any other special facts that I wish to remember.

For me, an important and satisfying aspect of collecting is the study and further research that I spend on the books after they arrive. It will come as no surprise that I have not read all of the books in my collection from cover to cover. I will even confess that in spite of several tries I have failed to "compleat" reading the *Compleat Angler*. Not only is Walton dull, he wasn't a fly fisherman. He even used worms for bait!

The collecting game for me is absorbing, stimulating and even fast moving. I have learned the hard way that collectors are highly competitive. If I don't move fast enough, the book I want to buy has been scooped up by someone else. In many instances there is only one chance to acquire a really important and desirable rare book. If you don't step up and pay up when it is offered, you may never find another copy.

I'm glad that I am an optimist and have followed my instincts to be ready and willing to strike hard and fast when the opportunity arises. It is somewhat like smallmouth bass fishing. You are willing to accept the disappointments over the ones that go away because it is such a pleasure to land the occasional big one.

### **The Daniels "Hall of Fame"**

Over the years I have been able to acquire many exciting individual books, but I think my collection is more significant as the sum of the parts. I also believe that one of its strengths is that it is widely spread and balanced to include many books about a large number of sports.

There is a special synergy for me

*continued*



### **THE NATIONAL SPORTING LIBRARY NEWSLETTER**

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Laura Rose, Editor



between sporting artists and authors who have joined forces to create some of the best sporting books that have ever been produced. I would single out the artists and authors who jointly created some very special books about foxhunting as being the best of the best. This is no accident, because I think foxhunting is a sport, and even a pageant, which is larger than life.

The illustrations that John Leech created for Surtees' foxhunting stories win the gold medal, with silver and bronze to either Somerville and Ross or Paul Brown and Gordon Grand.

Robert Smith Surtees created a memorable character in Jorrocks, a kind of "Joe Six-Pack" who had improbably become a foxhunter. In a priceless episode in Surtees' *Handley Cross*, Jorrocks tries in vain to urge his balky hunter Artaxerxes to jump over an enormous ditch: "Dash my vig! If you don't behave I'll get back up on your back and bury my spurs in your sides. Come hup! I say, come hup you ugly beast!" Surtees invented Jorrocks, and Leech brought him to life!

I believe that all of us are hunter-gatherers at heart, and by nature. A collector is a hunter whose quest is the perfect book, and one of the joys of collecting is the successful culmination of a prolonged and difficult search for a particular rarity. The first time I tried to acquire a copy of the 1653 first edition of Izaak Walton's *Compleat Angler*, I was ignominiously outbid at a Swann Gallery auction by a determined lady who had no top limit. She shot me out of the water at a price which set a new record for a Walton first edition and was written up in *Sports Illustrated*.

Only nine months later I scored a real coup! I bought the first, second and third editions of the book at a Sotheby's auction at a very reasonable price. I had "gone a-fishing," and this time I had landed a whopper! □

*The Minneapolis Institute of Arts has published a 65-page catalogue of the exhibition, "Five Hundred Years of Sporting Books, Manuscripts, Prints and Drawings from the Collection of John H. Daniels." The catalogue describes each of the 227 items and illustrates a number of them in black and white and color. It is available from the Publications Department, Minneapolis Institute of Arts, 2400 Third Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55404. The charge is \$14.95 plus \$4.00 for handling (Minnesota residents should include 7 percent sales tax). To order the catalogue by phone, call (612) 870-3029.*

## "Gift Horses"

### Book Donations

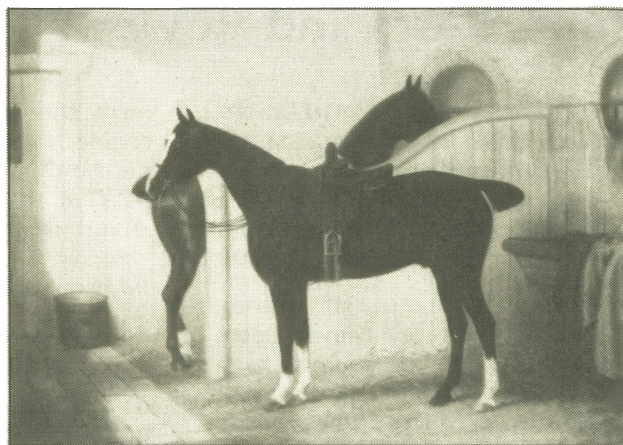
Earlier this year the Virginia legislature approved pari-mutuel betting and satellite wagering, and the race is now on to build a major track in the state. The NSL's horse racing books may become increasingly in demand as a result, and the Library has recently received a number of donations that strengthen its racing collection.

Edmund Twining III donated an impressive set of British racing calendars dating back to 1751. The Library's set was greatly upgraded by these books, many of which were in far superior condition to our previous holdings. Helen Wiley, Cary Grayson and Gordon Grayson all donated Thoroughbred statistical books not previously held, and *The Chronicle of the Horse* donated their 1991 set of the *American Produce Records*—an invaluable resource.

Arthur Arundel donated the master copy of the film *Americans at Aintree*, which features the 1980 Grand National victory of Ben Nevis. Robert Banner Jr. provided the Library with a videotape copy of the film, as well as another videotape of historic steeplechasing and racing footage.

The NSL's collection of sporting periodicals received a boost when the Honorable and Mrs. William Rogers donated 14 leatherbound volumes of *The Sportsman* magazine. Capt. John Fritz donated yearbooks relating to racing, polo and showing.

Mrs. Herbert Bowlby and Mrs. Brian Ellis each donated a number of good



E. Browne's "The Coote"

horse books, and author Cherry Hill sent copies of two of her publications.

In addition, Kent Carnie, curator of the Archives of American Falconry, donated a book and a print related to falconry.

### Art Donation

The National Sporting Library has plenty of books to delight the mind, and now, thanks to a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, even more art to delight the eye. The donation—41 artworks in all—includes oils, watercolors and prints.

Among the donated works is Joseph Dunn's portrait of a stout gray horse. According to the *Dictionary of British Sporting Artists*, Dunn (1806-1860) was a ne'er-do-well who loved to hunt and often deserted his wife and family in order to do it. When he was killed at the age of 54 from a hunting accident, he left them penniless. Dunn, who was self-taught, is also known for his paintings of cattle and dogs.

British artist E. Browne painted "The Coote," a ladies' hunter, in 1883. Browne, who also painted cattle portraits, worked in the Coventry and Warwickshire areas. He was known as "Browne of Coventry," and often inscribed his works, including the NSL's portrait of "The Coote," with the word "Coventry."

Next time you are visiting the Library let us point out our new acquisitions to you. Three cheers for our donor, a Friend of the National Sporting Library who was happy to place the artwork where it would be enjoyed by NSL visitors. □



Joseph Dunn's "Portrait of a Gray"



## Book News and Reviews

**THE HORSE—PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES 1839 TO THE PRESENT.** Gerald Lang and Lee Marks. Harry N. Abrams Inc., 100 5th Ave., New York, N.Y. 10011. 1992. 156 pp. Illus. Index. Bibliography. \$45.00

A total of 152 photographs, mostly black and white, trace the involvement of horses in work, war and play from the invention of photography in 1839. Some are by legendary photographers like Mathew Brady, Eadweard Muybridge, Alfred Stieglitz and Irving Penn, while some of the best are by "photographer unknown."

The book has four parts: a lengthy, sometimes dry, essay, "People and Horses: an Enduring Relationship," by Elizabeth Atwood Lawrence, a veterinarian and cultural anthropologist; an informative essay, "The Horse in Photography," by Gerald Lang, a professor at Penn State's School of Visual Art, and Lee Marks, a photography art dealer and consultant; the section of photographs, with a vast variety of subjects; and exhaustive notes by Marks on the subject and photographer, where available, of each picture.

For a favorite picture I'll go with "Maud Bows to the Virginia Creeper," taken at Green Cove in the mountains of southwestern Virginia. The "creeper" is a steam engine rounding a curve leading to Green Cove's tiny depot; Maud is a gray workhorse with a load of timber. Head bowed in deference to the "iron horse," she's halted at a crossing next to the depot. Maud's master and five persons on the depot's porch also have lowered heads.

Marks explains that the picture was one of a series by O. Winston Link, who was commissioned in 1956 by the Norfolk and Western Railroad to docu-

ment the final days of the steam engine, which was being replaced by the diesel. Thanks to marvelous composition, highlighted by Maud, the picture is an incredible success.

So is *The Horse: Photographic Images, 1839 to the Present*.

P.W.

**CLOTHESHORSE: A HISTORY AND GUIDE TO RIDING APPAREL.** Richard D. Carreno. Writers Clearinghouse, P.O. Box 607, Quinebaug, Connecticut 06262. 1992. Pamphlet, 62 pp. \$4.95.

This enjoyable pamphlet is a quirky treasure trove of information on the origins, status, proper form and interesting tidbits associated with boots and breeches, pink coats and polo shirts, shadbellys and stocks. Carreno writes: "No other civilian wardrobe can so easily ensnare the unwary, or the untutored—giving rise to the beginner's caveat: 'It is better to be plain in dress than plain wrong.'"

The impact of riding clothes on modern fashion is evident in stirrup pants, polo shirts and "Newmarket" caps. Even the classic button-down shirt has an equestrian tie, as it dates to the turn of the century, when John E. Brooks of Brooks Brothers went to an English polo match and noticed that the players' collars were anchored so they would not flap in the wind.

Carreno also delves into the status aspect of riding wear, from the English gentleman's "country" clothes through Ralph Lauren's Polo label. For some, riding dress means a step up the social ladder. The author cites the movie industry of the 1930's as one example: "Reflecting the industry's self-doubt and perceived lack of artistic stature, actors and directors—

whether they rode or not—frequently masked their insecurities with breeches and hunt boots as routine daytime wear. Director Cecil B. DeMille was particularly noted for strutting on back-lot sets in full regalia."

Quotes from fashion sociologist Alison Lurie, art critic Phillipe de Montebello, essayist Christopher Sykes and others help Carreno successfully spur the reader on through a subject that in most hands is dreadfully dull.

L.R.

**THE SPORTING LIFE, A PASSION FOR HUNTING AND FISHING.** Laurence Sheehan with Carol Sheehan and Kathryn George. Clarkson Potter Publishers, 201 E. 50th St., New York, N.Y. 10022. 1992. 240 pp. Illus. Index. Directory. \$40.

With about 350 color photographs, this coffee table book celebrates the sporting life of North America and the people who live it, with particular emphasis on the Eastern Seaboard. It's divided into four sections—angling, shooting, foxhunting and the wilderness. The devotees of these pursuits have a common denominator that surfaces time and again—protecting the environment and enjoying it.

The houses, stables, kennels and "playgrounds"—trout streams in the Adirondacks, foxhunting territories in Ohio, Virginia and New York, shooting plantations in Georgia and vacation wildernesses in Maine—are beautifully illustrated by photographer Bill Stites, and the text—by the husband/wife team of Larry and Carol Sheehan and Kathryn George—is informative and lively.

*The Sporting Life* also has a useful directory of art, crafts, antiques, books,



*Cavalry* (c.1938), a silver print by Swiss photographer Gotthard Schuh (1898-1969), from *The Horse, Photographic Images 1839 to the Present*.



Virginia Community College, Alberta, Va.; *The Buffalo Soldier* (Donnie Good) to the Mid-Hudson Library, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

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Attention book dealers and collectors! Are you interested in advertising in the National Sporting Library Newsletter? We are exploring the possibility of offering one page of business card-size ads per issue, available on a first-come, first-serve basis. If you are interested please write or call (703) 687-6542 for more information.

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A number of the NSL's historic sporting periodicals were included in a spring cataloging project of the Virginia State Library. Peggy Reitz, director of the Central Virginia Union List of Serials project, visited the NSL and listed the Library's holdings of periodicals such as *Turf, Field and Farm*, *The Spirit of the Times*, and the *American Turf Register*. Before the project, researchers, historians and sport enthusiasts found general listings of the periodicals, but not the specific years or volumes of each. Now over 14,500 libraries, members of the OCLC library computer network, have access to the exact holdings.

## Officers — Directors

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The NSL's Peter Winants, Laura Rose and June Ruhsam headed to three Richmond libraries in July to get ideas on library design and expansion. The first stop was the Union Theological Seminary, where Library Director Dr. John Trotti discussed upcoming building plans for the seminary's library. The UTS campus, which features beautiful brick buildings and decorative ironwork, is on the National Register of Historic Places. Trotti offered advice on library issues such as security, fundraising, and book and memorabilia display.

The second stop was the T.C. Williams School of Law Library at the University of Richmond. Library Director Steve Hinckley gave us the cook's tour of the recently expanded library, which is now equipped with a "computer-friendly" carrel for each law school student. Within the next year the students will be required to own lap-top computers, which they will put to work right in their individual library carrels.

The final stop was the library at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. Like the National Sporting Library, the museum's library is facing a space crunch. One of their space-saving measures is compact shelving, complete with electrically-powered shelving units that move at the touch of a button. A walk through the museum's Mellon collection, with sporting works by artists such as Stubbs, Hall, Haseltine, Troye and Skeaping, topped off a successful tour of Richmond.

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Are your sporting shelves sagging? Fear not! Send your books to a new home at the National Sporting Library, where they will join a distinguished collection enjoyed and appreciated by readers of all ages. As the Library expands throughout the Vine Hill mansion, it will have a luxury afforded to few libraries—room to grow. The NSL is always looking to expand the scope of the collection. Donations are tax-deductible, and duplicate books are the basis for the NSL's annual fundraiser, the duplicate book sale.

Book donations ensure that the Library is able to provide the greatest assistance to its patrons. If you are interested in learning how your books might supplement the Library's collection, call NSL Librarian Laura Rose at (703) 687-6542.

The following is a list of items which are not yet on the NSL shelves but would be welcome additions.

Ainslie, Tom/*The Body Language of Horses*, *American Racing Manual*/1979, 1982, 1984-present, Anderson, C.W./*Complete Book Horses and Horsemanship*, *Baily's Hunting Directory*/1984/85-present, Brown, Paul/*Pony Farm*, Bruns, Ursula/*Con-nemara: Seaboard of the Horse*, Dawnay, Hugh/*Polo Vision*, Dawson, Lionel/*Lonsdale, The Authorized Life of . . .*, della Rochetta, Mario Incisa/*Tesios As I Knew Them*, Diggle, Martin/*Riding Cross Country*, Disston, Harry/*Riding Rhymes*, Edwards, Marjorie/*Figures in a Landscape* (L. Edwards), Harper, Harriet/*Around World . . . 80 Years on Sidesaddle*, Jockey Club/*Foals of . . . 1971-present*, Milner, Mordaunt/*Godolphin Arabian*, Nack, William/*Secretariat, Making of a Champion*, *Steeplechasing in America*/1973, 1975, 1977-83, 1986, 1990, Van Urk, J.B./*Story of Rolling Rock*, Westmayer, Erwin/*Treatment of Horses by Acupuncture*, Old Saddlery Catalogues, Equine Videos.

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Why weren't the duplicate books listed in the fall newsletter, as they have been in the past? Because there are too many of them! The 1992 list, mailed separately to NSL members, includes hundreds of entries, from rare books to new books to hard-to-find magazines.

Why not start your holiday shopping early by bidding on duplicate books? Hook a polo enthusiast with back issues of the classic *Polo* magazine, or catch a foxhunter with a Gordon Grand Derrydale. You have the opportunity to bid on the classics of equine literature while showing your support of the Library and its services.

We invite you to visit the Library weekdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and look over the collection before making your bids.

We will be happy to point out items that may be of interest to you. If you have any questions about the sale, call (703) 687-6542.

Please note: Bids will only be accepted from members whose dues are up-to-date. If your membership has expired, you will be notified and asked to renew before your bids are honored. □



## Seen in the Stacks . . .

### *Some patrons pay us a visit:*

- Robert Dunlop of West Lafayette, Ind., and David Williams of St. Paul, Minn., worked with the NSL's rare book collection in preparation for their upcoming book, *An Illustrated History of Veterinary Medicine: Animals in Culture*. Both are professors at veterinary schools: Dunlop at the University of Minnesota, Williams at Purdue University.
- Jackie Burke of Middleburg researched the history of steeplechasing in the metropolitan Washington area.
- Lane Halteman, a painting conservator from Great Falls, Va., looked over the NSL's sporting art collection and related books.
- Julia Davis of Avondale, Pa., researched the history of jockeys, The Jockey Club and sporting architecture.
- Robert P. Hagemann of Washington, D.C., looked up the art of his grandfather, Michel Jacquot, of France. Jacquot's cartoons frequently appeared in *The Chronicle of the Horse* in the 1960s and 1970s; his book, *Humour Hippique*, is part of the Library's extensive collection of books on sporting art.
- Suzanne Carroll, a combined training instructor from Middleburg, found jump-building ideas for her cross-country course.
- Charles Cary Martin of Washington, D.C., searched for information on his great-grandfather, sculptor and polo player Charles Cary Rumsey, who is represented in the sporting art book collection.
- Florence Hillman of Middleburg found information on the history of driving at Devon for a video production on the 1992 Devon Driving Marathon.
- Marilyn Lawrence of Midland, Va., looked for references to her horse Sir Henry, a former show hunter now retired in her backyard.
- Ernest Byfield of Middleburg researched early horse racing in Virginia. Byfield, a publicity officer at Great Meadow, was preparing press information regarding racing history leading up to the state's recent activities in pari-mutuel betting.
- Barbara Cole, a horse book dealer from Raleigh, N.C., stopped by for a visit and a browse through the duplicate books.
- Fewell Merchant of Middleburg

looked for historical sporting references to the bobwhite quail.

- Ann and Judi DeMichele of Haymarket, Va., researched the racing record of their Thoroughbred Deri Rumroe.
- Sandra Forbush of Flint Hill, Va., browsed through the books on sporting art.
- Michael and Teri Johnson of Oakton, Va., traced the bloodlines of their Quarter Horse in the Quarter Horse studbooks.
- Lorian Peralto-Ramos of Harrison, N.Y., looked for paintings by Sir Alfred Munnings in preparation for a catalogue raisonne of his works.
- Peter Thomas Hansen, a lawyer from Upperville, Va., found information on the AHSA pony measurement rules for a legal case.

### *Other patrons call or write:*

- Pam Westerfield of Christie's in New York, researching a Ben Marshall painting of Theophania, 1803 winner of The Oaks.
- Jim Barnes, a librarian at the Jefferson-Madison Library in Charlottesville, Va., researching the portable horse tie weights that 19th century carriage drivers used in lieu of hitching posts.
- Jennifer Wattles of Clay, N.Y., researching Man o' War.
- Chip Boyer of Dayton, Ohio, researching paper magnate George H. Mead, for a biography underwritten by the Mead Paper Company.

The Mead family was based in Dayton but also had a home in Aiken, S.C., where Mr. Mead played polo.

- Griffith Jones of Morristown, N.J., researching sporting artist Paul Brown.
- Rachel Layton of the National Museum of Racing in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., researching the "Duke's Cup," a trophy awarded at the Brookline (Mass.) steeplechase around the turn of the century.
- Reese Howard of Southport, Conn., researching the Richmond County Hunt, which from 1877-1915 hunted territory on Staten Island, N.Y.
- Alex Luna of Orlando, Fla., researching the silks of Secretariat and Man o' War. Luna is designing displays for Celebrities, an Orlando restaurant that will feature sports and entertainment stars.

• Lisa McMasters of Louisville, Ky., researching racetrack lead ponies for *Business First* newspaper.

• Doris Tinker of Lebanon, Pa., researching the origins of the term "ratcatcher" on behalf of the Central Pennsylvania Junior Horseman's Association.

• Lynne Renau of the Kentucky Derby Museum in Louisville, Ky., researching the show career of Allegro, a show jumper ridden by Norman Dello Joio in the 1980 Alternate Olympics held in Rotterdam.

• Kay McCall, a librarian at the Handley Library in Winchester, Va., researching the sizes of riding rings.

• Gerald Ackerman of Claremont, Calif., researching horse painter Edward Troye's journey to the Near East. Ackerman is writing a book on American Orientalist painters.

• Renee Childers of the American Quarter Horse Association in Amarillo, Texas, researching the Chickasaw, an American breed.

• Beverly Murphy of the Saratoga (N.Y.) County Promotion and Tourism Office, researching the history of the Saratoga racetrack.

• Cal Bernstein of Los Angeles, Calif., researching sporting art for a "CDI." A CDI is an interactive compact disc that presents information and images on a video monitor. Bernstein's will focus on the history of horse racing.

• Chester Somers of Lowell, Mass., researching equine bronzes.

• Kiley Stojeba of Canton, Mich., researching racehorses Gallant Fox, Man O'War and Ruffian.



### *Hippomania*

*The rage for horses has become a positive epidemic; many persons are infected with it whom one would have credited with more sense.*

Lucian (c. AD 125-190)  
from Stella Walker's  
*Long Live the Horse*





furnishings, firearms and sporting museums and libraries. The museum/library section lists 26 institutions in 10 states and Canada. Included are the extensive art collection at the late Mrs. Parker Poe's Pebble Hill Plantation in Georgia; the International Reference Library of Fishes in Florida; the Adirondack Museum in New York; the Chesapeake Maritime Museum in Maryland; Sagamore Hill on Long Island, N.Y., Teddy Roosevelt's former home, filled with hunting trophies, books and art; the Margaree Salmon Museum in Canada; the American Museum of Fly Fishing in Vermont; the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Wyoming; and I'm pleased to report that Virginia's Museum of Hounds and Hunting and National Sporting Library are represented.

P.W.

**REFLECTIONS IN A SILVER SPOON, A MEMOIR.** Paul Mellon with John Baskett. William Morrow and Company, 1350 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019. 1992. 431 pp. Illus. Bibliography. Index. \$27.00.

Though Paul Mellon will primarily be remembered for art—particularly his generosity to the National Gallery, Yale Center for British Art and the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts—he is also seriously into the collection of books. The Brick House, his museum/library near Upperville, Va., houses large sporting and art reference collections, and he has given important book collections to Oxford and Cambridge.

Mellon's love of country living is evident throughout his book, and particularly in one paragraph: "One of the reasons I've always liked riding, fox-hunting, racing, or just walking around in the beauty of the countryside—green fields, bright autumn leaves, sunsets, rainbows, high wedges of flying geese and their eerie honking, cattle grazing, cattle lowing in the distance—is that these scenes long remain vividly in my mind's eye. It is an inner picture gallery that I can return to in quiet moments."

*Reflections in a Silver Spoon* is for anyone who is into the things that mean so much to Paul Mellon. As an added bonus, you'll see that his life, just like yours and mine, isn't always a silver spoon.

P.W.

**THE YOUNG RIDER'S BOOK OF HORSES & HORSEMANSHIP.** Isabelle von Neumann-Cosel-Nebe. Half Halt Press, 6416 Burkittsville Road, Middletown, MD 21769. 1991. 208 pp., illus. \$24.95.

The author states that an important point for the beginning rider is "experiencing a relaxed, friendly and happy atmosphere of learning between rider, horses, and teachers, and in the process developing a love for endless learning." Kids who begin to learn about the world of horses with this book may also develop a love for endless reading.

The text is fun to read and presented in magazine-type format—short, pointed chapters with clever titles and thoughtful reading, illustrated with photos and cartoons that will keep kids giggling. One feature is a memo board with messages like: "Learn the letters around the dressage arena. This may help you: A Fat Bay Mare Can Hardly Ever Kick." Another feature, "Things to Try," asks "Compare the gaits with the conformation: do horses with the best conformation have the best gaits?"

All the ingredients of a proper riding manual are included, as are horse history, behavior and breeds. The author takes care to gently debunk the myths of the young and horse crazy. She explains why a pony cannot live happily in the family garage, and how modern horse-catching is much different than the lasso days of the Wild West.

The book, recommended for ages 10 and up, is guaranteed to encourage both reading and riding. No guarantees on arithmetic.

L.R.

**REFLECTIONS ON RIDING & JUMPING.** William Steinkraus. Doubleday, 666 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10103. 1991. 154 pp. Illus. Bibliography. \$24.95.

Bill Steinkraus' command of writing and riding are at their best in *Reflections on Riding & Jumping*. He writes clearly and concisely on a subject he's been involved with for 50 years. In the preface, Steinkraus stated:

"If some of my ideas seem simplistic, especially in comparison with the complexity of their origins in many cases, I can only apologize and agree. Oddly enough, the most important principles of riding seem much simpler and more obvious to me today than they used to, perhaps because I don't have to cut corners in response to competitive pressure anymore. I'm happy to add that as my thinking about riding has become less complicated, I seem to get more out of more horses with less effort, and even greater pleasure from riding."

Don't be turned off if you're not into show jumping per se. Many chapters, including "Riding on the Flat," "Dealing with Problem Temperaments" and "Bits and Biting" should be read by horsemen regardless of the discipline.

P.W.

### Selected New Books

- Anderson, C.W./*Billy and Blaze* (Macmillan)
- Anderson, C.W./*Blaze and the Forest Fire* (Macmillan)
- Archer, Rosemary/*Arabian Horse* (J.A. Allen)
- Burch, Monte/*How to Build Small Barns & Outbuildings* (Storey)
- Coombs, Tom/*Horsemanship* (Crowood)
- de Kunffy, Charles/*Athletic Development of the Dressage Horse* (Howell)
- Devereux, Sue/*Veterinary Care of the Horse* (J.A. Allen)
- Easton, Patricia Harrison/*Stable Girl* (Harcourt Brace Jovanovich)
- Evans, Justin/*Art of the Horse* (Wood River)
- Grace, Peter/*Polo* (Howell)
- Hill, Cherry/*Becoming an Effective Rider* (Storey)
- Holderness-Roddam, Jane/*Practical Eventing* (David & Charles)
- Imus, Brenda/*From the Ground Up* (Howell)
- James, Shirley K./*Going to a Horse Farm* (Charlesbridge)
- Kuspit, Donald and Tucker, Marcia/*Horses: The Art of Deborah Butterfield* (Chronicle)
- Lyons, T.P./*Biotechnology in the Feed Industry* (Alltech)
- Morgan, Diane/*Understanding Your Horse's Lameness* (Half Halt Press)
- North American Riding for the Handicapped Association/*NARHA Guide*
- Nelson, Hilda/*Francois Baucher* (J.A. Allen)
- Rossdale, Peter/*Horse Breeding* (David & Charles)
- Stashak, Ted/*Equine Wound Management* (Lea & Febiger)



## NSL Newsbriefs

Move update: Horse and book lovers from around the country want to know when the Library will expand throughout Vine Hill. Renovation plans are scheduled to begin in March 1993. Once renovations have been completed, the book collection will be relocated to the building's upper floors as quickly as possible.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you're hoofing it to Louisville, Ky., in the next few months, stop by the Kentucky Derby Museum and check out the "They Shoe Horses, Don't They?" exhibition. Three of the NSL's early books on farriery are included in the show, which highlights the history and lore of the farrier. The exhibition will remain open through January 1993.

\*\*\*\*\*

Former NSL Librarian Judith Ozment had her own taste of "Northern Ex-

posure" for three months last summer as she served as a volunteer librarian at Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka, Alaska. The college's 50,000-volume library features an archives of important Russian-American material and a collection of historic photographs of natives, animals and boats.

In addition, NSL director Peter Winants embarked on an 18-day journey to Kenya. The trip included a 10-day riding safari which led the group 150 miles across the Masai Mara Game Preserve. Winants returned with striking photos of zebras, hippos and lions and a desire to visit Africa again. Next time you visit the Library, ask him about the elephant charge.

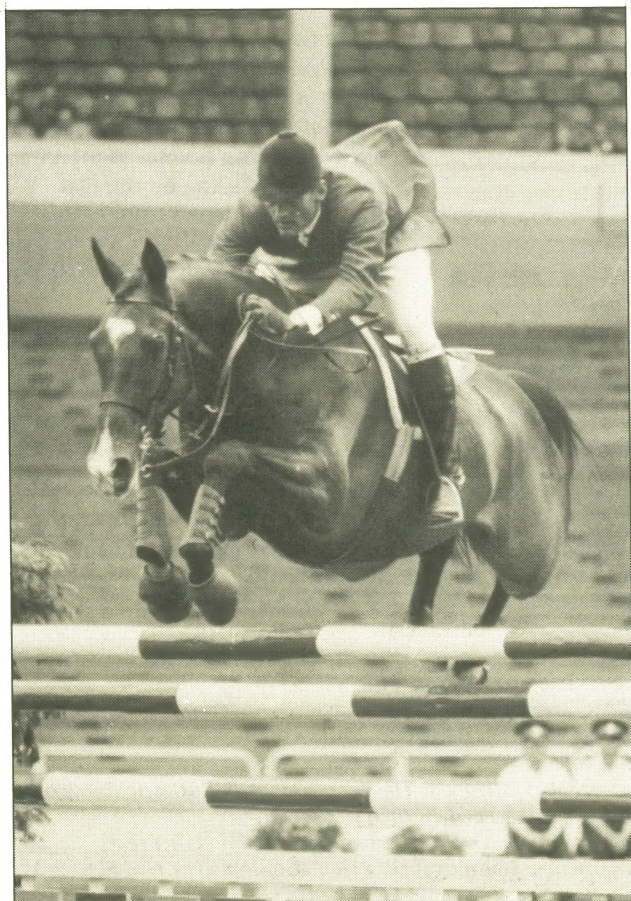
Closer to home, NSL Librarian Laura Rose has been hitting the books at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., the site of a number of sessions for a Catholic University course in reference librarianship. The course lecturers include librarians from the library's main reading room and from the Congressional Research Service,

which answers about 300 questions a day for members of Congress and their staffs.

\*\*\*\*\*

A number of NSL books went on vacation over the past few months as interlibrary loan travelers, including: *Pig-Sticking or Hog-Hunting* (Robert Baden-Powell), to the Roanoke County Library, Roanoke, Va.; *Heavy Horses* (Edward Hart) to the Cazenovia Public Library, Cazenovia, N.Y.; *Practical Carriage Building* (T.M. Richardson) to the Northside Library, Charlottesville, Va.; *Horses in the Sun* (Judith Campbell) and *Arabian Horses* (Selby Stud) to the Milwaukee Public Library, Milwaukee, Wisc.; *Horses* (Robert Pocock) to the Ohio County Public Library, Wheeling, W.Va.; *Understanding Nervousness in Horse and Rider* (Moyra Williams) to the Minerva Public Library, Minerva, Ohio; *Eventing* (Judy Bradwell) to the Southside

*continued*



Steinkraus and Snowbound winning the show jumping gold medal at the 1968 Olympics.

## Steinkraus Named to Board of Directors

William Steinkraus has been named to the board of directors of the National Sporting Library.

As a rider in five Olympics, Steinkraus won four medals including the individual gold in Mexico City in 1968, a first for an American. All-told, he was a member of 39 winning teams in Nations' Cup classes, and he won over 100 individual competitions internationally in a 22-year career as a rider for the United States Equestrian Team.

Likewise, Steinkraus has gained an international reputation in journalism. As a teenager, his articles first appeared in *The Chronicle of the Horse* under the pen name "Proctor Knott." His books are *Riding and Jumping* and *Reflections on Riding and Jumping*, which is reviewed in this newsletter. He's also the co-author with his sister, M.A. Stoneridge, of *The Horse in Sport*, and he was the editor of four books: *Great Horses of the USET*, *The Complete Book of Show Jumping*, *The Encyclopedia of the Horse* and *The USET Book of Riding*.

Steinkraus, who is honorary chairman of the USET, lives in Noroton, Conn. His wife, Helen, is a top dressage rider. □



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- You will support a unique library in Middleburg, Virginia, that provides access to current and historical information on horses for horsemen, writers, scholars and pleasure readers.

The Library, which was founded in 1954, has a collection of over 10,000 volumes dating from 1553. Subjects include veterinary care, dressage, eventing, show jumping, breeding, foxhunting, polo and racing. Also present are over 600 books on sporting art and a fine collection of art including work by Edward Troye, Ben Marshall, Frank Voss and Paul Brown.

- You will receive the National Sporting Library Newsletter, which features articles on contemporary and historic issues relating to the horse. The Newsletter also has reviews and listings of newly published horse books, as well as descriptions of books and art recently donated to the Library.

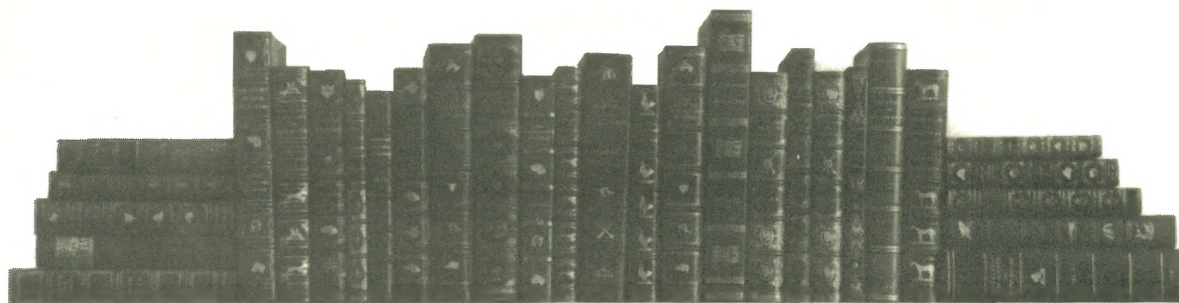
- You will bid on books in the National Sporting Library's annual Duplicate Book Sale. The sale this November, which is restricted to Friends of the Library, has over 500 titles, many rarely on the market. The books in the sale have minimum prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$1500.

Members receive a list of books for this silent auction, such as: *Thoughts On Hunting* by Peter Beckford; *Form Over Fences* by Jane Dillon; *The Maryland Hunt Cup* by Stuart Rose; *Grooming to Win* by Susan Harris; *Memoirs of a Fox-Hunting Man* by Siegfried Sassoon; *Steeplechasing* by John Hislop; *Training Hunters, Jumpers and Hacks* by Col. Harry Chamberlin; and *My Dancing White Horses* by Alois Podhajsky.

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